DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND I—Excise.

Mr. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 11,000 under Demand I—Excise; (1) For additional expenditure on account of the transport of salt Rs. 9,000, (2) for fitting up of producer gas plants to departmental vans Rs. 2,000.

After the out-break of the war it has been found difficult to get lighters at the rates at which it was possible to get them in previous days and for the transport of salt from the factories to the bankshalls at Trivandrum, Alleppey, Munambom and Quilon additional expenditure is found to be necessary. This sum of Rs. 9,000 will be recovered when salt is sold to the public at the various bankshalls.

Under the second item two departmental vans which were being used in the northern frontiers have to be fitted up with producer gas plants because of the difficulty in getting petrol. This amount was not originally provided for in this year's budget and therefore it is now necessary to provide for this additional expenditure.

Mr. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know for fitting up how many vans this amount is required?

Mr. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Two vans. I consulted the Director of Transport and he said that with Rs. 1,000 it will be possible to fit up producer gas plant for one vehicle.

Mr. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know what sort of conveyance was indented for last year to convey the salt?

Mr. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Last year also salt was taken by sea by lighters. Now it is difficult to get lighters from Tuticorin to transport salt at the old rates. We have to pay additional charge due to present war conditions.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 11,000 under Demand I—Excise was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND IX—Commercial Transport.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 1,000 under demand IX—Commercial Transport. A sum of Rs. 5,500 was sanctioned in the current year's budget for Transport Department for pay of menials. The Director of Transport now states that with the conversion of a number of petrol driven wagons into charcoal gas driven venicles there has been much additional cleaning work and that an additional sum of Rs 1,000 is necessary for meeting the expenditure on that account. So Government have proposed to provide an additional sum of Rs. 1,000 in the current year's budget under this head.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 1,000 under demand IX Commercial Transport was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

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